THE CENTRE REPORTER,

FRED. KURTZ.....Editor.

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TERMS.—The REPORTER is published weekly at $2 per year, in advance, or $2.50 when not paid in advance. For six months half these rates.

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Any person sending us the names of six new subscribers, with the cash will receive the REPORTER one year free.

The legislature of New York passed a local option bill last week. The Tribune says a great many members took advantage of requests to be excused from voting to ventilate their ideas upon the merits of the bill and of temperance legislation generally. It was only after long delay in announcing the vote, which afforded opportunity for lobbying and drumming up votes, that barely a sufficient number of Yeas were secured to pass the bill. It was currently reported, this morning, that an effort was made by the liquor dealers to defeat a concurrence by the use of money; but if such an attempt was made, it failed, and the bill now goes to the Governor for his signature. The same bill, or a similar one, has been before the Legislature for three years past, but has always until now been defeated in the Senate. The country members, especially the Republicans, generally voted for the bill this year, although it was asserted in the debate that its passage would drive most of the German Republicans out of the party. In calculating the political advantages or disadvantages, they appear to have arrived at the conclusion that the temperance vote was of more value to the party than the German vote. The Germans would have been entirely satisfied if lager-beer had been excepted from the operations of the law; but all attempts to do this failed in both Houses. The bill as passed requires a vote to be taken in all the towns and cities of the State at the next general election on the question whether license to sell liquor shall be granted or refused—a majority of votes to decide the question. Where the limits of an incorporated city are not the same as the town limits, the city is to vote separately; but in the case of villages the vote of the town and village together decided the question of license for both.

Simon Cameron has had his portrait painted upon a panel in one of the doors of the senate foreign relations committee room. Along side of himself he has the portraits of two of the most distinguished chairmen of that important committee; these are Henry Clay and Charles Sumner. Cameron is the present Chairman, and has the three figures so arranged as to make his picture look the most important and prominent of the three, and there is only one man we know of who for a certainty thinks he is the greatest of them all, and that is Cameron himself, while all the outside world look upon him as entirely out of place, as well as utterly unfit for the position. But if Cameron cannot make himself prominent by any ability he shows in the foreign affairs committee, he can certainly atone for it and satisfy his vanity, by making paint do for him upon the door panel, what brains lack him in statesmanship.

We think the senate should have the faces of Clay and Sumner wiped out, as they are disgraced by the company they have been forced into, and in their stead might be put something like the following appropriate side-dishes:

A scene showing old owl-nose in the act of swindling the Winnebago Indians.

Bags of gold showing how the habitual briber fixed Manear, Lebo and Wagonseller, with the portraits of these bribe-takers.

A picture of his car-ride with Mr. Boyer, when he agreed to pay him $25,000 to vote for him for U. S. Senator.

The are a dozen other little extras, of the same character, in the life of Mr. Cameron, which might be painted around the margin, and which would tell the true nature and history of the man.

Simon Cameron along side of Clay and Summer! how ridiculous! It's a slander upon those men.

The constitutional convention, as will be seen in another column, adopted a section which abolishes the office of associate judge.

This week's horrors opened with the following headings: Murder in New York City;—Mysterious Murder in Maine;—Riot and one Man killed in Reading;—Brutal Outrage and Murder of a young girl in Putnam co., N. Y.;—Murder in New Hampshire.

How much longer this list of violence will be by Saturday evening, God only knows.

Gov. Dix has not yet signed the bill—he wants lager beer exempted from the operation of the act. Lager beer is harmless, and we think that it should have been exempted from the local option act in our own State.

President Grant has received a "temperance blessing" from Philadelphia.

Well, a man who has taken as much old rye as he has, wont refuse the "blessing," sure.

So many members of Congress having returned to the treasury the increase of salary, the country is now waiting to hear from Gen. Grant in the matter. Grant has not yet signified his intention to return to the United States Treasury at the close of his present term the $100,000 which was his share of the salary grab. His signature made that scandalous bill a law. He profited $100,000 by writing his name just once.

WILL NOT DOWN.

On the 8th day of April says the Pittsburg Post, Mr. Orvis of Center county charged in his place in the House, at Harrisburg, that there was a defalcation upon the part of the Radical officials in this State, amounting to the extraordinary sum of nearly three millions of dollars. This speech has been published at length in many papers in the State, the Post among others, and no effort has been made to meet the very serious charge it embodies; the idea of the politicians who inspire the Radical press evidently being to let the charge die out under a well arranged silence. This game will not win. The amount alleged to have been stolen is rather too large to be permitted to sink quietly and forever into the pockets of the honest men who are suspected of having appropriated it; and we call upon the Commercial—the property of two State officials—to devote some attention to explain the facts upon which Mr. Orvis has based his charges.

Taking Curtin's last message for authority it appears that on the 1st day of December, 1866, the State debt amounted to $35,622,052.16, the items of which are furnished in that official paper. These figures of Gov. C. are born out by the official reports of John F. Hartranft, the Auditor General and of Wm. H. Kemble, the then State Treasurer.

In February 1867 the new Governor, Geary, signed an Act of Assembly authorizing a six per cent loan of $23,000,000 in order to take up over-due bonds bearing five per cent interest—thus increasing the liabilities of the State $230,000 a year—one per cent upon the $23,000,000. During that year the sum of $26,918,829,89 was paid on the public debt, $1,794,644,-30 of which was paid out of the sinking fund and, $19,124,185, 39 out of the twenty-three million loan—leaving of that loan $3,875,814 91 still to be applied.

Gov. Geary in his message of January 1868 states the debt to be $37,704,409, 77 and he repeats this as the sum of the debt in his third annual message; and follows this by the statement that up to Nov. 30, 1869 $4,899,868 82 had been paid, and that the total debt on that day was $32,-814,540 95. In his fourth message Geary says that on Jan. 15, 1867 the debt was $37,-704,409.77 that $6,592,748 87 has been paid up to Nov. 30, 1870; and in his last message he says that during his six years the payments had amounted to $10,992,-622 54 or 29 per cent on the debt as it was on Dec. 1, 1866—$47,704,409.77.

Here we find Geary saying that he found the debt to be $37,704,409 77 when he began his first term; when Curtin and Hartranft, and Kemble—the Governor, the Auditor General, and the State Treasurer, all unite in officially stating it to have been $35,622,055 16. Geary reports that $10,995,662 54 had been paid during his six years; which if Curtin and Hartranft and Kemble were correct, should have made the debt now $24,659,389 62 in stead of $27,308,494 64 as he reports it to be.

What has become of the $2,674,105 02 the difference between these two sums?

The N. Y. Tribune gives the following illustrations of the "Retrenchment and Reform" promised by the Republican party:

How well the party and the President have fulfilled their promises of reform, perhaps Mr. George W. Curtis can answer as well as any one. How much the party has used its power in carrying forward measures of retrenchment is partially illustrated in the very suggestive compilation published herewith showing the offices created and salaries increased by the last Congress. A larger number of these offices, as will be seen by the roll, are left by the terms of the bills creating them, in such indefinite shape that the amount by which the salary roll is increased cannot be stated but the increase in salaries aside from these foots up $1,252,557. The trustful voter who believes the "Christian statesmen" when they promise retrenchment and reform on the stump and in the press, will find food for reflection in these figures. This amount of increase in salaries he will bear in mind is not a single grab of a million and a half, like that by which Congress lately signalized its devotion to principle. That was a matter of a single item that had only to be charged over to profit and loss for the people to pay once and be rid of. But here is a perpetual burden upon the people. It is as if the national debt had been increased by over twenty-five millions for which five per cents had been issued. Nay, more, it is a debt that can never be redeemed. Government salaries go only one way—up always; and this amount must be paid always annually from this time forward. It is an increase of the national debt by over twenty-five millions in such form that the interest must be paid forever with no power to pay the principal or wipe out the obligation.

It is a pleasing popular fiction that this is retrenchment. It hath somewhat of the flavor of such Civil Service Reform as gives us Casey and Newman and Sharpe; of such a humanitarian Indian policy as the Modoc war illustrates; of such honest administration as compounds all felonies against government for a fraction of the fruits and fines an importer a quarter of a million for mistakes by which the Government came near losing 1½ million; of such a policy of reconstruction as furnishes two governments to a State, by the use of Federal machinery to uphold a usurpation, of such a plan of developing the resources of the South as brings all the land under the hammer of the tax-gatherer and enriches a parcel of peanut sellers and bartenders, who support the National Administration, and administer the State finances; of a wise and dignified foreign policy which sends peddling politicians to disgraceus in the most retail, picayunise, corner-grocery way before all nations at Vienna; of a self sacrificing devotion to the interests of the country that adjourns the Senate with disorder and bloodshed impending, which its action might prevent and which scatters President and Cabinet on pleasure trips all over the country in the midst of complications of the most serious moment; of a purification of politics represented by the stuffing of ballot-boxes and the pardon of repeaters; of an elevation of the tone of public men illustrated by the President in his companionship with Thomas Mruphy and Henry Clews; of a loyalty which consorts with Mosby and denounces Sumner; of a sincerity of conviction which takes Butler as leader and turns deaf ears to Hawley; of an integrity that carries Credit Mobilier and lies about it; of a Christian statesmanship that sees no dishonesty in sitting in a Senate where seats are sold almost at public vendue, and men legislate for great corporations from which they have received general retainers.—There's something of that sort of flavor in this buisness of retrenchment.

THE NEW CHICAGO.

It is characteristic, perhaps, of the American irreverence, which sees the ridiculous aspect of everything in this world, and finds a sub-flavor of humor in every story, be it of suffering, of heroism, of gallant enterprise, or of stupendous achievement, that we never think of Chicago without the temptation to indulge in a joke. The great miracle of a metropolis rising out of the prairie in the life of a single, generation impresses us, of course, as strongly as it does the rest of mankind, and in our secret hearts we are immensely proud of the career of the lusty young city on the shores of Lake Michigan, and perhaps a little envious, too, of its strength its enterprise, and its ingenuity. Nevertheless, Eastern citizens cannot help laughing a little at a prosperity which passes all the bounds of reason, and a restless activity which borders upon the grotesque. There is somethin absurd in abnormal rapidity of growth, whether it be of a long-limbed boy or a prairie metropolis. When Chicago was devastated by calamity as remarkable as all its previous history, we watched the astonishing process of its reconstruction with mingled wonder and amusement. Palaces started out of the still burning embers. Commerce redoubled its ventures before the merchants could count their losses. The ashes were put out of sight before they were cold; and when the smoke lifted we saw the new city already half built, and an army of masons and carpenters working away for dear life upon the rising walls. Nobody wasted a moment in lamentation over the destruction of the labors of a lifetime. The struggle was who should get his new house done first, and whose house should be the finest.

The old Chicago was the growth of forty years. The new one is the growth of two. And now that it is so far advanced that the splendor of its great warehouses, the stupendous proportions of its hotels, the elegance of its homes, the beautiful vista of its avenues, begin to produce an effect, the whole country is invited to assemble by the lake side in June, and rejoice over the renovation. We cannot doubt that the Jubilee will have a tremendous success. It is the celebration of practical enterprise and mercantile magnificence. It is at once a prolonged and glorified boast, and a shout of self-gratulation that will be heard from the Rock Mountains to the Atlantic. Thousands of travellers will halt there to see what this extraordinary city is like, which has raised itself out of the cinders in less time than the municipality of New York takes to build a fountain; and thousands will watch with curious interest a festival which illustrates so well the spirit of the people, and fits so well the occasion that called it forth. There is to be a concert in the biggest hall in the world, and a ball in the biggest hotel. Appropriately enough, the hall is a railway depot, and we are told that all the railways will co-operate in the celebration. Even the locomotives will join their voices to the general pæan, and "tug "whistles and other novel features of a "similar character will be introduced as a "background to the instrumental effects." What the instrumental effects are to be is perhaps sufficiently indicated by the announcement that the committee have secured Mr. P. S. Gilmore, with a monster band, batteries of artillery, and unnumbered anvils. A large delegation of "Governors of States included within "the ganglia of Chicago railroad lines;" a committee supposed to be the biggest ever put together; a quadrille that shall take in more dancers than ever before shook foot together under a single roof; and a supper surpassing in dimensions every culinary achievement of which there is any record—these are some of the other attractions of the amazing Jubilee whose noise is to roll across the prairie and the lake on the 5th and 6th of June. Whatever we may think of some of its features, it will be a hearty demonstration, and quite as great a curiosity in its way as the Lake Tunnel or even the Garden City itself.—*Tribune.*

THE CASE OF STOKES.

Albany, N. Y. May 15.—Mr. Perrin Clerk of the Court of Appeals, this morning signed the writ issued by Judge Brady staying the proceedings in the case of Edward S. Stokes. This will bring the case immediately before the Court of Appeals; and as it requires only fourteen days' notice under the rules of the Court to bring a case on for hearing, the case will no doubt be heard and decided before the Court takes its recess in June.

SHAD IN CALIFORNIA WATERS.

Mr. Seth Green's experiment of transplanting shad from the Hudson River to Pacific waters has proved successful and fish of the sort have been caught in the Bay of San Francsco fit for the table. In June, 1871, Mr. Green, by order of the Fish Commissioners of California took 10,000 young shad from the Hudson and deposited them in the upper waters of the Sacramento. They spent the first year in the bay and river and now when coming in are caught by the fishermen. They are the first shad ever taken in California waters.

Postal Cards.

The Third Assistant Postmaster General, Mr. E. W. Barbor, has given notice that, the necessary appropriation having been made for the purpose, the Department will, on the first of May next, commence the issue to postmasters of the postal cards authorized by the act of June 8, 1872.

The card adopted is five and one-eighth inches in length and three inches in width, and is made of good, stiff paper, watermarked with the initials U. S. P. O. D. in monogram. The face of the card is engraved, surrounded by a border in scroll work one-eighth of an inch in width. The one cent stamp printed on the upper right hand corner is from a profile bust of the Goddess of Liberty, looking to the left, and surrounded by a lathe-work border, with the words "U. S. Postage" inscribed above and "one cent" below. On the upper left hand corner are the words "United States Postal Card," with directions to "write the address only on this side, the message on the other." Underneath, and occupying the lower half of the card, are ruled lines on which to write address, the top line being prefixed with the word "To—." The back of the card, intended for the communication, is entirely devoid even of ruled lines. In color, the body of the card is light cream, the printing velvet brown. No variation in size, shape, color or in any other particular will be made from the regular style to accommodate special cases; nor will the Department do any printing on the card beyond the engraving specified in the description.

Postal cards will be sold for one cent each, neither more nor less, whether in large quantities or in small.

The object of the Postal Cards is to facilitate letter correspondence and provide for the transmission through the mails at a reduced rate of postage of short communications, either printed or written in pencil or ink. They may therefore be used for orders, invitations, notices, receipts, acknowledgments and other requirements of business and social life, and the matter desired to be conveyed may be either in writing or in print, or particular in both. In their treatment as mail matter they are to be regarded by postmasters the same as sealed letters, and not as printed matter, except that in no case will unclaimed cards be sent to the Dead Letter Office.

An ordinary printed buisness card may be sent through the mails when prepaid by a one cent postage stamp attached; but such card must contain absolutely no written matter except the address, otherwise it will be treated as not fully prepaid. and refused admissions into the mails.

All cards different from those herein described bearing embossed or printed postage stamps and purporting to be United States postal cards are counterfeit, and the manufacturer of such cards or the attempt to use the same will subject the offender to a fine of $500 and imprisonment for five years. (Sec. 178, Postal Code.)

Postmasters will not, under any circumstances, be permited to reduce or exchange postal cards that may be misdirected, spoiled in printing or otherwise renderd unfit for use in the hands of private holders.

The Depatrment will not furnish less than five hundred cards on the order of a postmaster. Individuals desiring postal cards will purchase them of a postmaster, as in no case can they obtain them upon their application to the Department.

A KANSAS HORROR!

An Awful Revelation.

Discovery of a Murderer's Den Containing Eight Victims.

The Kansas City (Mo.) Times contains the following account of a dreadful affair already alluded to in our telegraph columns:

What follows in its facts may read like the recital of some horrible dream, wherein night mirrors upon the distempered brain a countless number of monstrous and unnatural things, yet what is set down in the narrative is as true as the sun:

On the 9th of March, Dr. W. H. York, the brother of that other York, famous now for his penetration of the guilty secrets of Pomeroy and his betrayal in the supreme moment of the Senatorial crisis of the trusts confided to his keeping—left Fort Scott, on horseback, for his home in Independence, Kansas. He did not come home. His friends watched and waited for him, his family prayed and prayed for him, the talk of the town dealt day after day with him, expectation at last deepened into downright earnestness about him, until on the 28th of March the Lawrence Tribune gave a brief account of the mysterious disappearance. All at once thereafter all the papers in the State took up the tale of his journey, of his non-arrival, of the fears of foul play, and of all the little details and circumstances that might go to show that he had been murdered. The most thorough search known to finite skill was at once commenced. His neighbors turned out *en masse.* His brother, Col. A. M. York, rested neither day nor night in his labors, but followed what seemed to him a trail with the tenacity of Indian and the devotion of a saint. He was traced to Cherryvale, but no further. Cherryvale is a small town on the Leavenworth, Lawrence and Galveston railroad, and is in Labette county, about fifty miles from the southern line of the State. To the south of Cherryvale some two miles or less, stands a frame house, having in front a large room, where meals were served, and a rear sleeping room, furnished with two beds and some scant additional furniture besides.

William and Thomas Bender lived in this house with their wives. To the right of the dwelling house was an out house, and in the rear was an enclosed garden of possibly two acres.

The search seemed to end suddenly at Cherryvale. Suspicion, if ever entertained, fell upon no one. There were various surmises, conjectures and expressions of opinion. Wm. Bender, the eldest of the brothers, had a wife who was a Spiritualist. The balance of the Benders called her a medium. The neighbors, a she devil. She was forty-two, with iron gray hair ragged at the ends and thin over her temples. Her eyes were steel-gray and hard. All the household feared her, dreaded her, obeyed her, and as the sequel proves, did the devil's work for her beyond all the atrocious devil's work ever done in Kansas.

Time went slowly by, and a man riding in one day from the prairie saw no smoke arising from Bender's chimney. The windows were down, the doors were closed, there was no sign of life anywhere. This man, however, in riding by a pen to the left of the house, saw a dead calf in the lot, and, upon further investigation, and with the practical eyes of a practical farmer, used in guessing the weight of live stock upon the hoof, he knew that the calf had died of starvation.

Then the truth came, as an overflow comes often to a Kansas creek, all of a sudden and overwhelming. Such a death suggested flight, flight meant guilt, and the nature of the guilt was surely murder. He galloped into Cherryvale and related what he had seen. The town aroused itself. A party was organized instantly and set out for the Bender mansion. Then it was remembered that about two weeks before this—say somewhere near the 24th of April—William Bender had sold to some persons either in or near Cheryvale, a watch, some clothing of fine character, two mules, and, perhaps, a shot gun or two, and some pistols. How did he come by these? If the dead could speak the question might be readily answered.

The party from Cheryvale arrived. The front room of the house was carefully searched. Then came the back room. The beds were removed. In his flight the elder Benner had left everything untouched. Not even the doors were locked, though such had been the reputation of the she-devil that the premises stood as safe from intrusion as if protected by a devil in reality. After the beds had been removed one of the party noticed a slight depression in the floor, which, upon closer examination, revealed a trap door upon hinges. This was immediately lifted up, and in the gloom a pit outlined itself, forbidding, cavernous, unknown. Lights were procured and some of the men descended. They found themselves in an abyss shaped like a well, some six feet deep and about five feet in diameter. Here and there little damp places could be seen as if the water had come up from the bottom or been poured down from above. They groped about over these spotches and held up a handful to the light. The ooze smeared itself over their palms and dribbled through their fingers. It was blood. The party had provided themselves with a long sharp rod of iron which they drove into the ground in every direction at the bottom of the pit, but nothing further rewarded the search, and they came away to examine the garden in the rear of the house. After boring, or prodding, as it it were, for nearly an hour, the rod was driven down into a spot, and when it was withdrawn something that looked like matter adhered to the point. Shovels were at once set to work, and in a few moments a corpse was uncovered. It had been buried upon its face. The flesh had dropped away from the legs. There was no coffin, no winding sheet, no preparation for the grave, nothing upon the body but an old shirt, torn in places and thick with damp and decay. The corpse was tenderly disinterred, and laid upon its back in the full light of the soft April sun. One look of horror into the gastly face, festering and swollen, and a dozen voices cried out in terror:

"IT IS DR. YORK!"

And it was. He had been buried in a shallow hole, with scarcely two feet of dirt over him. Had he been murdered, and how? They examined him closely. Upon the back of his head and to the left and obliquely from his right ear, a terrible blow had been given with a hammer. The skull had been driven into the brain. Strong men turned away from the sickening sight with a shudder, Others wept.

A coffin was procured for Dr. York's body, and his brother, utterly overwhelmed, sat by the ghastly remains as one upon whom the hand of death had been laid. He could not be comforted.

But the horrible work was not yet completed. The iron rod was again put in requisition, until six more graves were discovered, five of which contained each a corpse, and the sixth containing two, an old man and a little girl. Some were in the last stages of decomposition, and others, not so far gone, might have been identified if any among the crowd had known them in life.

Coffins were provided for all, and again was the search renewed. It was past midnight when our informant left, but three more graves had been discovered, each supposed to contain a corpse, although they had not been opened. The whole country is aroused. Couriers and telegrams have been sent in every direction with descriptions of the Benders, and it is not thought possible that they can escape. With the crowd at the grave was a man named Brockman who was supposed to know something about the murders. Furious men laid hold upon him at once and strung him up to a beam in the house. His contortions were fearful. His eyes started from their sockets, and a livid hue came to his face that was appalling. Death was within reach of him when he was cut down. "Confess! Confess!" they yelled, but he said nothing. Again he was jerked from his feet, and again was the strong body convulsed with the death throes. Again resuscitated, he once more refused to open his mouth. He did not appear to understand what was wanted of him. The yelling crowd, the mutilated and butchered dead, the flickering and swirling torches sputtering in the night wind, the stern, set faces of his executioners, all, all passed before him as a dreadful phantasmagoria which dazed him and struck him speechless. For the third time they swung him up, and then his heart could not be felt to beat, and there was no pulse at his wrists. "He is dead," say said. But he was not dead. The night air revived him at last, and he was permitted to stagger away in the darkness as one who was drunken and deranged.

Six butchered human beings were brought forth from their bloody graves, and three others are yet to be uncovered. It is thought that more graves will yet be discoverd. The pit under the trap door was made to receive the body when first struck down by the murderer's hammer. All the skulls were crushed, and all at nearly the same place. One of the corpses was so horribly mutilated as to make the sex even a matter of doubt. The little girl was probably eight years of age, and had long, sunny hair, and some traces of beauty on a countenance that was not entirely disfigured by delay. It is supposed that they have been following their horrible work for years. Plunder is the accepted cause.

KHIVAN EXPEDITION — TOWNS OCCUPIED BY THE RUSSIANS.

London, May 14.—A special dispatch to the London times from Calcutta, under date of May 13, says the Russian expeditionary force has occupied Oorgheuj, a village of Khiva. The same dispatch reports that Abdul Rahman has been summoned to St. Petersburg.

St. Petersburg, May 14.—A dispatch from Kasalinsk brings intelligence that detachments and reconnoitering parties from the Russian expeditionary columns report that the Khivese are throwing up entrenchments at Kytah and Dankara. They are also sending out vanguards to meet the Russians at Minbulak. There has been an engagement at Igela between a Russian force and Turcomads in which the latter were defeated. Twenty-two of the Turcomians were killed and one thousand of their camels were captured by the Russians.

A TERRIBLE SITUATION.

A COLLIERY ON FIRE.

Forty-two Men in the Pit.—No Means of Escape.

Halifax, N. S., May 12.—An explosion took place to-day in the Drummond colliery in Pictou county. Mr. Dunn, the manager, his assistant manager, and forty other men are in the pit. The slope is on fire and there is no means of egress from the mines. Great anxiety is felt for the safety of the men.

The greatest excitement prevailed above ground after the fearful occurrence and crowds of people for miles around came rushing to the scene of the disaster, and saw one of those heartrending scenes which is described by eye witnesses as something harrowing beyond all conception, the recollections of which will never fade from the memory.

Mothers, wives, sisters, children and friends crowded around the burning pit, mourning pitifully the terrible fate of those below, their heartrending cries being heard for a long distance.

Every effort has been and is being made to rescue the men, but so far fruitlessly, and it is feared they have all perished.

The Latest.

New Glasgow, N. S., May 14.—The fire at the Drummond colliery continues to burn briskly, but is slowly abating, all of the openings having been filled up and steam and water turned into the air shaft lately worked.

The men who have escaped with great difficulty from the slope report that on their way up they passed the bodies of their comrades, who had probably become stupefied by the smoke. Since the explosion none have came up alive.

Of four men who volunteered to go down the shaft shortly before the second explosion, three were killed.

Several violent explosions took place last night. One was perceptibly felt four miles distant. The inquest commenced yesterday.

The number of victims will probably reach seventy-five.

ACCOUNT OF THE CALAMITY TERRIBLE EXPLOSIONS—CLOSING THE OPENINGS OF THE MINE.

Westville, Pictcu County, N. S. May 14.—From 10 o'clock last night untill daylight this morning, the fire at the Drummond Colliery raged with intense fierceness gathering volume and violence each moment. The sky in the vicinity of the mine was illuminated with flames issuing from the air shaft to the hight of nearly 100 feet. All through the night there were explosions at intervals; three were preceded by a rumbling noise like that of thunder. The weary watchers who remained around the mouth of the pit and the air-shaft and labored to subdue the flames were obliged to seek shelter in an adjoining wood, as the stones, debris, etc thrown from the pit's mouth at each explosion were being scattered around in all directions, and threatened instant destruction or injury to every one within reach.

About 2 o'clock this afternoon these explosions were followed by one which for terrific violence and destructive force d warfed all the rest. All the wooden works in and about the main slope were instantly destroyed. Stones, wood, and burning embers were driven high into the air smoke, flame and horrible noises accompanying the explosion giving the beholder a vivid idea of a volcanic eruption. Those who witnessed it described it as resembling that more than anything else, the violence of the explosion. The people living at Westville and Stellarton were The earth for mile around was shaken with very much frightened as they knew not how far the disaster would extend or how soon such an explosion would occur. Since 2 o'clock this morning the fire has continued to burn. Flames are issuing from all the air shafts, altheugh not so intense as they were last evening. Laborers are now energetically at work filling up the shafts with clay. By this means they have so far succeeded in subduing the flames that hopes are entertained that the worst danger is over unless another explosion takes place. One of the air shafts is now drawing the air, and this renders the siutation very precarious. It was feared that the fire would spread into Acadia Mine, which adjoins the Drummond Colliery; but every qrecaution having been taken to guard against such a danger, no apprehensions are felt at the Acadia Works.

The scenes in and around the villages are saddening. Westville and the village at the Drummond Colliery are in mourning. The shops are closed and no work is being done. Men and women wander about in groups their saddened countenances betokening the great grief that has befallen them. No pen can correctly picture the harrowing scenes of yesterday, when the terrible truth was conveyed to the mourning wives, sisters, and friends of those who were so suddenly hurled into eternity. People rushed frantically toward the scene of the disaster. The utmost excitement prevailed, and for hours it was impossible to ascertain who were or were not it the mine. Women, many of whom had husbands, brothers, and sons working in the colliery, made the air dismal with their crying.

After the explosion yesterday, four men volunteered to descend into the downcast air shaft for the purpose of attempting a rescue. They were blown up by the second explosion which immediately followed one of them, a miner named Edward Burn was driven into the air a distance of 100 feet and fell into the wood near by, where his dead body was picked up this morning. About 45 of the men lost were married, all of whom leave families to mourn their sad fate.

It was the first day in the mines for some of the unfortunate men. Several of the unmarried who had lately begun work belonged to Cumberland County. Every person here speaks in the highest terms of the bravery displayed by the manager, Mr. Dunn, in descending to the mine after the first explosion, and thus sacrificing his life to save others. Much sympathy is expressed for his bereaved wife. The land indeed may be said to be filled with lamentation and mourning. Nearly every family here lost some relation or friend by this terrible calamity.

There are many reasons given to account for the disaster, but the direct cause is attributed to the stoppage of work at the mines and the rapid accumulation of gas. Whether proper care and precaution were exercised during the stoppage in looking after the mine are facts which will be determined upon official inquiry.

BORDER LIFE.

A Fight with Indians—A Brave Girl

San Francisco, May 13.—Advices from Arizona state that United States troops captured Qbienhattannoba, the Apache chief who murdered five squaws, and were about to hang him, but Gen. Crook ordered that he be sent to Fort Alcatraz in the harbor of San Francisco. Three companies of troops have been ordered from Arizona to the Modoc country.

A dispatch from Portland, Oregon, yesterday, says five Indians attacked the house of James Harrison, eight miles from Walla Walla. He refused to give the Indians tobacco and they knocked the door down. Mr. Harrison defended himself and daughter with a hatchet. He knocked two of the Indians down and was struggling with the third when his daughter came to the rescue and knocked the Indians down with an axe. The neighbors heard the outcries and came to their relief. Harrison and his daughter captured three of the Indians who are in jail. The two other Indians escaped.

A HORRIBLE SPECTACLE.

The Rope Breaks at an Execution and the Criminal is Hung Up a Second Time.

A shocking sight was witnessed at the execution of George Lea, a negro, Yanceyville, N. C., on the 5th inst. It is thus described by a correspondent:

He mounted the steps to the drop with a firm and steady tread, and, being asked by the sheriff if he had anything to say, he addressed the crowd, warning them particularly against whiskey, which, with the promptings of the devil, he alleged, had brought him there to day. He admitted his crime; stated he had made his peace with his maker through the intercession of Jesus Christ, and earnestly exhorted all present to lead good lives and meet him in heaven. He said, "I met with bad fortune The crime was wrong, but the law is right. I have nothing against this man that is going to kill me: I love him and I love everybody. Goodby to you all."

The fatal moment now approaching, the sheriff proceeded to pinion him at the ankles, when in a broken and tremulous voice he called loudly, "Marsa Tom! Oh! Marsa Tom! Oh, Marsa Tom! Goodby! goodby! I'm about to die! Oh, Marsa Tom, I love you! Forgive me, and meet me in heaven!" A white cap was then drawn over the features of the condemned man. For a moment he stood

an Awful Looking Spectacle

on the drop. At twenty minutes of two p. m., the drop fell with a loud crash; an exclamation of horror came from the crowd; the rope had broken, and the body of George Lea was dashed to the ground, quivering in the agonies of death. The rope was promptly loosened and the neck, though not broken, was turned stiff, to one side as he writhed in the greatest torture. He was asked if he felt hurt, to which he replied, "Yes, very badly hurt."

A New Rope

was soon brought, the noose was quickly made, and placed again on the condemned man's neck, and once more he was standing a living spectre on the drop. He cried out "Goodby!" again to the crowd. Nine minutes to two p. m. there was another crash; the body fell fully five feet seven inches. But this time it remained suspended, swinging round with great velocity, and the sheriff steadied the rope, and then the body was drawn up two or three times convulsively, and after some slight twitchings of the hands and lower limbs, the body, at twenty-three minutes past two, was cut down. There was motion of the heart twenty minutes, and the soul of George Lea war in eternity. The great firmness and courage with which he walked on the scaffold the second time elicited the admiration of everybody.

CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION.

Philadelphia, May 15, 1873.

In yesterday afternoon's session, the twenty-sixth section of Judiciary report was adopted as amended, on motion of Mr. Purviance, of Allegheny. It provides that each county containing thirty thousand inhabitants shall constitute separate Judicial districts to elect one Judge, the Legislature to provide for additional judges as the business of said district may require. Counties containing a population less than is sufficient to constitute separate districts are to be formed into convenient single districts, or if necessary, may be attached to contiguous districts, as the Legislature may provide.

The section abolishes the office of Associate Judge not learned in the law, except in counties not forming separate districts, but the several Associate Judges in office upon the adoption of the New Constitution are to serve out their unexpired terms.

The section was agreed to as stated; also the succeeding section, requiring all laws relating to courts to be general, and of uniform application, and to secure uniformity in powers, etc, of courts of the same class.

The Constitutional Convention, in Committee of the Whole, on Tuesday last, by a vote of 42 ayes to 37 noes, adopted the following provision authorizing cumulative voting in the election of judges:

"SEC. 16. In all elections of judges whenever two or more are to be elected for the same term of service, each voter shall have as many votes as there are judges to be elected and may give all his votes to a smaller number of persons than the whole number to be chosen, and the candidates highest in vote shall be declared elected."

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